

4 April 1974

George:

In a restricted file dealing with Vietnam in 1963, I have come upon a memo to the Director dated 7 October 1963, signed by Chet Cooper as "Chairman, CIA Working Group on Vietnam." This particular memo is a literate analysis of the strong and weak points of a Department guidance which had recently been sent to Lodge in Saigon.

Obviously this "working group" was a lineal precursor of what later became the VAS. Among the SAVA papers, either here in the building or stashed [redacted] do you happen to have a collection of documents turned out by this working group? If so, I'd very much like to get my hands on same. My guess is that the working group was formed during the summer of 1963, since I don't think many people had really "discovered" Vietnam until the Buddhist brouhaha that began in May of that year.

I'm about to set pen to paper on events of 1963 and don't want to overlook any important source material.

Thanks,

[redacted]

EA [redacted] has given me quarters in 5-E-18. [redacted]

[redacted]